

**ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for processing a mailpiece. The method includes receiving a mailpiece that has a barcode printed on the mailpiece. The barcode being in machine-readable format. Next, image data of the mailpiece is obtained. Postage data is calculated as a function of the data of the barcode and an indicia is printed on the mailpiece that represents the postage data. A control signal is generated as a function of the representative data and operation of a mailing machine is modified as a function of the control signal. Furthermore, the barcode can contain data that is transmitted to a server and used for tracing the location of the mailpiece and confirming delivery of the mailpiece.